

## Program Endorsement Brief: 3020.20/Piloting *Aircraft Dispatcher*

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, October 2018

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### Summary:

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to aircraft dispatcher. This report is intended to help determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from community college programs that align with relevant occupations.

The following summarizes key findings from this data brief:

- The number of jobs for dispatchers and airfield operations specialists is projected to increase by 2% over the next five years. More than 800 job openings will be available annually due to new job growth and replacement need (e.g. retirements).
- Over the past 12 months, there were 735 online job postings related to the two occupations of interest in Los Angeles/Orange County.
- In the region, four colleges have piloting and air traffic control programs.
- Between 2014 and 2017, community colleges in the region conferred an average of 119 awards (associate degrees and certificates) in related training programs.

**Occupational Demand**—In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs for dispatchers and airfield operations specialists is projected to increase by 2%. There will be more than 800 job openings per year through 2022 (Exhibit 1).

**Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties<sup>1</sup>**

Geography	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	2017-2022 Change	2017-2022 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	6,773	6,914	141	2%	641
Orange	1,747	1,789	42	2%	166
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,520</b>	<b>8,703</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>807</b>

**Wages**—Entry-level hourly wages for dispatchers and airfield operations specialists in the region are between \$11.35 and \$16.72. Entry-level wages for airfield operations specialists are higher than the MIT Living Hourly Wage for one adult in the region (\$13.54 in Los Angeles County, \$15.31 in Orange County). Experienced workers earn between \$30.16 and \$53.89, which is higher than the living wage.

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<sup>1</sup> Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

**Job Postings**—There were 735 online job postings related to dispatchers and airfield operations specialists listed in the past 12 months. The majority of job postings are for dispatchers, and airport dispatchers. Top specialized skills are: scheduling, customer service, and data entry. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region are: Ultimate Air Shuttle, First Transit, and MV Transportation, Inc.

**Educational Attainment**—The BLS lists a high school diploma or equivalent as the typical entry-level education for these occupations. The national-level educational attainment data indicates that approximately half of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of job postings that included a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, all request at least a high school diploma or vocational training.

**Community College Supply**—Appendix A shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes: Piloting (3020.20) and Air Traffic Control (3020.30). The college with the most completions in the region is Mt. San Antonio. Between January and September 2018, there were no other community college requests for data related to a similar program.

**Appendix A: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2014-2017**

TOP Code	Program	College	2014-15 Awards	2015-16 Awards	2016-2017 Awards	3-Year Award Average
3020.20	Piloting	Cypress	30	27	39	32
		Glendale	9	4	2	5
		Mt San Antonio	46	41	44	44
		Orange Coast	1	N/A	N/A	1
<b>Subtotal/Average</b>			<b>86</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>81</b>
3020.30	Air Traffic Control	Mt. San Antonio	49	31	34	38
		<b>Subtotal/Average</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Total/Average</b>			<b>135</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>119</b>

**Appendix B: Occupational demand and wage data by county**

**Exhibit 2. Los Angeles County**

<b>Occupation (SOC)</b>	<b>2017 Jobs</b>	<b>2022 Jobs</b>	<b>5-Yr Change</b>	<b>5-Yr % Change</b>	<b>Annual Openings</b>	<b>Entry-Level Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Median Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Experienced Hourly Earnings</b>
Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance (43-5032)	6,157	6,227	70	1%	567	\$11.32	\$18.18	\$30.21
Airfield Operations Specialists (53-2022)	615	688	73	12%	74	\$16.70	\$23.88	\$54.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,772</b>	<b>6,915</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>641</b>			

**Exhibit 3. Orange County**

<b>Occupation (SOC)</b>	<b>2017 Jobs</b>	<b>2022 Jobs</b>	<b>5-Yr Change</b>	<b>5-Yr % Change</b>	<b>Annual Openings</b>	<b>Entry-Level Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Median Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Experienced Hourly Earnings</b>
Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance (43-5032)	1,717	1,757	40	2%	163	\$11.47	\$17.37	\$29.53
Airfield Operations Specialists (53-2022)	30	32	2	7%	3	\$17.54	\$23.34	\$45.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,747</b>	<b>1,789</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>166</b>			

**Exhibit 4. Los Angeles and Orange Counties**

<b>Occupation (SOC)</b>	<b>2017 Jobs</b>	<b>2022 Jobs</b>	<b>5-Yr Change</b>	<b>5-Yr % Change</b>	<b>Annual Openings</b>	<b>Entry-Level Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Median Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Experienced Hourly Earnings</b>
Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance (43-5032)	7,874	7,894	109	1%	731	\$11.35	\$18.02	\$30.16
Airfield Operations Specialists (53-2022)	645	719	74	11%	76	\$16.72	\$23.85	\$53.89
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,519</b>	<b>8,703</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>807</b>			

## Appendix C: Sources

- O\*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI)
- Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- Employment Development Department, Unemployment Insurance Dataset
- Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- MIT Living Wage

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